

PYROTECHNIC PERMIT REQUIREMENT GUIDELINES OUTDOOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY

The City of Cincinnati requires a permit issued by the Cincinnati Fire Department for any outdoor pyrotechnic (fireworks) display. Additionally, a State of Ohio Exhibitors licensed pyrotechnician is required to discharge the display in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code (O.R.C.) 3743.54.

Application for a permit of an exhibition of fireworks shall be done on the forms provided by the Fire Department at least ten (10) days in advance of the display date. Failure to submit the exhibition permit application ten (10) days in advance of the display date may result in denial of the application.

To obtain a permit for a outdoor pyrotechnics (fireworks) display within the city of Cincinnati, the following information must be provided in writing:

- ☐ The name, address, and phone number of the individual, group, or organization sponsoring the outdoor fireworks display.
- ☐ The name of the exhibitor/operator and proof of a valid State of Ohio fireworks exhibitor license.
- ☐ Provide the names, ages and address of assistants, and a copy of the State of Ohio registration card along with a definition of the assistants' responsibilities.
- ☐ The date and time of the day for the display. A proposed date and time in the event the display is postponed due to wind/rain.
- ☐ The exact location planned for the display.
- ☐ A diagram of the grounds showing where the display is to be held and the points at which they pyrotechnic devices are to be discharged, and the fallout radius for each pyrotechnic device used in the display shall be submitted. The diagrams shall also include the location of all buildings, highways, streets, railroads, and any other structures, inhabited or uninhabited, within 1,000 feet of the discharge and the potential landing zone.
- ☐ The diagram shall show the line behind which the viewing audience shall be restrained.
- ☐ The approximate number, sizes, types of pyrotechnic devices and materials to be discharged.

- ☐ The point of on-site assembly of the pyrotechnic devices.
- ☐ The manner and place of storage of all pyrotechnic materials and devices prior to, during, and after the display.
- ☐ The Material Safety Data Sheets, (MSDS), for the pyrotechnic material(s) devices being used.
- ☐ The name and license number of the pyrotechnic (fireworks) manufacturer or wholesaler who supplied all items in the fireworks exhibition.
- ☐ Evidence of financial responsibility to include proof that satisfactory liability insurance is carried for all employees of the applicant.
- ☐ Proof of financial responsibility as evidence by an insurance policy or indemnity bond in the amount of \$5,000,000; naming the City of Cincinnati as additionally insured. The policy must show an original signature of the agent writing the insurance policy.

General Requirements

- ☐ All fireworks materials and devices shall be transported to the fireworks discharge site in accordance with Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.
- ☐ The sponsor of the display shall make provisions for adequate fire protection and emergency medical services for the display.
- ☐ The sponsor shall consult with the Fire Department and the exhibitor/operator to determine the level of fire protection and emergency medical services required.
- ☐ The sponsor shall provide monitors whose sole duty shall be the enforcement of crowd control located around the display area.
- ☐ Monitors shall be positioned around the discharge site to prevent spectators or unauthorized persons from entering the discharge site.
- ☐ Until the Fire Department has completed the post display inspections, the discharge site shall be restricted.
- ☐ During the period before the display where pyrotechnic materials and devices are present, unescorted public access to the site shall not be permitted.

- ☐ No smoking shall be allowed within 50 feet of any area where fireworks or other pyrotechnic materials are present.
- ☐ No person shall be allowed in the discharge area while under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, or controlled substances, medication (prescription or non-prescription), that could adversely affect judgment, mobility, or stability.
- ☐ Prior to placement, mortars shall be inspected carefully for defects. Defective mortars shall not be used.
- ☐ Mortars shall be positioned so that the shells are propelled away from the spectators and over the fallout area. Under no circumstances shall mortars be angled toward the spectator viewing area.
- ☐ Mortars shall be buried to a depth of at least $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of their length, either in the ground or in above ground troughs or drums.
- ☐ Securely positioned mortar racks shall be permitted for the firing of single break shells not exceeding six inches, (152 mm), in diameter.
- ☐ Mortars shall be of sufficient strength and durability to fire the aerial shells safely.
- ☐ Mortar shall be of sufficient length to cause aerial shells to be propelled to safe heights.
- ☐ A minimum of two pressurized water or pump extinguishers shall be available at the discharge site.
- ☐ Following the display, the firing crew shall conduct an inspection of the fallout area for the purpose of locating any unexploded aerial shells or live components. This inspection shall be conducted before any public access to the site is permitted.
- ☐ The proper handling and disposal of any unfired shells shall be provided by the operator/exhibitor.

In the opinion of the Fire Official or the operator/exhibitor, wherever any hazardous condition exists, the fireworks display shall be postponed until the condition is corrected.

In the opinion of the Fire Official or the operator/exhibitor, should high winds, precipitation, or other adverse weather conditions prevail such that a significant hazard exists, the fireworks display shall be postponed until weather conditions improve to a reasonable level.

The licensed exhibitor/operator shall be responsible for compliance with the provisions under which the fireworks exhibition permit was granted.

Any display adding pyrotechnic special effects devices different from the display as described and diagrammed in the application for the permit plan shall require approval by the Fire Chief prior to the performance/display.

The Fire Chief shall require that a certified Fire Safety Officer be present before, during, and after the exhibition. The Fire Department's pyrotechnics life safety officer shall inspect the exhibition site for compliance with the life safety requirements contain herein, the Ohio Revised Code, and the Cincinnati Fire Prevention Code. The cost incurred for the inspection and/or additional fire protection shall be at the expense of the sponsor.

In order to assure the Fire Department ample time to review the plans and permit application, all documentation shall be submitted no less than 10 days before the date of the event.

To obtain an application or to submit a completed application:

Cincinnati Fire Department
Pyrotechnic Permit
700 Pete Rose Way
5th Floor, Lobby B
Cincinnati, OH 45203
(513) 357-7584

The permit fee is \$20. A check or money order should be made payable to the City of Cincinnati Treasurer at the time the application is submitted.

For additional information, contact Special Events at 352-3970, or fax 352-6223.